

One of the recommendations being considered by the Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee would repeal 74D, which establishes the Alarm Systems Licensing Board. The North Carolina Electronic Security Association, which represents alarm dealers, installers and monitoring companies are uniformly opposed to the dissolution of this important Board.

- Alarm businesses have important information about how alarm systems in particular homes and businesses are set up and the strengths and flaws of the system. This information can threaten the safety of families and businesses where they expect it the most.

- One of the problems in the industry is unlicensed alarm companies coming in and providing misinformation to the public about who they work for, the system they are installing and the cost of the system. The companies then leave the area leaving consumers with little or no options.

- Chapter 74D provides that only the Board can regulate the alarm industry and without this provision every municipality and local government could create their own ordinances about the type of product that can be sold, how that product is monitored and the particular electrical code provisions for installation. This would create a huge nightmare for businesses that operate throughout the state or in multiple cities and counties by making them change their business practices for each location and greatly increasing the cost for consumers.

- We understand that the legislature is trying to lessen the regulatory burden on businesses and we applaud your efforts; however, in this case the regulation and oversight is needed. We are not talking about getting a bad haircut or someone's lawn looking bad, but the safety of families and businesses where they expect it the most. Currently the Board restricts who may be licensed by the board and reviews criminal records to make sure that those entering people's homes and businesses are not there to commit crimes.

The North Carolina Electronic Security Association strongly opposes the repeal of the Alarm System Licensing Board in Chapter 74D of the North Carolina General Statutes and would ask the Committee to remove this provision from their proposed bill.

For Questions please contact:

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